

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 10282 111136Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----043163 111137Z /10

Z O 111115Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 4819
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 10282

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS 1 & 2
TAGS: PBOR MILI MARR UNSC IS LE XF
SUBJ: SOUTH LEBANON

REFS: (A) STATE 203301, (B) TEL AVIV 10254, (C) BEIRUT 4632,
(D) BEIRUT 4633

1. AS INSTRUCTED, I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH WEIZMAN
AT 1500 THIS AFTERNOON. BEFORE I SEE HIM, HOWEVER, I
AM GOING TO TRY TO TELEPHONE DRAPER ON THE SECURE LINE
TO GO OVER THE TALKING POINTS. THIS SEEMS PARTICULARLY
NECESSARY SINCE IT APPEARS THAT WASHINGTON HAD NOT RECEIVED
TEL AVIV 10254 RECOUNTING ETIAN-WILLIAMS CONVERSATION
BEFORE CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS WERE SENT. ALSO, IT IS NOT
CLEAR TO ME WHETHER SUBSTANCE OF AMBASSADOR PARKER'S
CONVERSATIONS WITH SARKIS AND BOUTROS (BEIRUT 4632, 4633)
WERE FULLY DIGESTED IN WASHINGTON BEFORE DISPATCH OF TALKING
POINTS I AM TO TAKE UP WITH WEIZMAN.

2. IN PARTICULAR, I HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE
INSTRUCTIONS:

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-- I CAN GO OVER YET ONE MORE TIME WITH WEIZMAN
OFFICIAL GOI POSITION ON MOVEMENT OF LEBANESE FORCE TO
TIBNIN, BUT EITAN'S COMMENT TO WILLIAMS SEEMS TO HAVE
CLEARED THAT UP.

-- THE SAME GOES FOR THIRD TICK

-- WITH RESPECT TO TICK FOUR I WILL EMPHASIZE
DESTRUCTIVE EFFECT OF COMMENTS BY SENIOR GOI OFFICIALS ON
LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY AND TELL HIM THE ISRAELIS SHOULD
KEEP WHATEVER THOUGHTS THEY HAVE ON THIS SUBJECT TO
THEMSELVES.

-- I WILL ALSO EXPLORE WITH WEIZMAN THE POSSIBILITY
OF A FOLLOW UP MEETING WITH UN AND IN THIS REGARD MIKE
NEWLIN IS INFORMALLY TRYING TO FIND THE WHEREABOUTS OF
ERSKINE, CUQ AND AIME OVER THIS WEEKEND. THE EARLIEST
THAT SUCH A MEETING COULD OCCUR WOULD BE SUNDAY.

-- I DO NOT BELIEVE WE ARE GOING TO GET VERY FAR
ON THE DEADLINE IDEA. WEIZMAN WILL SAY THAT THE ISRAELIS
HAVE AGREED THAT THE LEBANESE COMPANY CAN GO TO TIBNIN BY
HELICOPTER NOW, IF THE GOI WILL ONLY GIVE ITS ASSENT. THE
SECOND SENTENCE OF THIS TICK WONT FLY HERE SINCE THE
"EXACT ROUTE TO BE USED AND MODE OF TRAVEL FROM KAWKABA
TO TIBNIN" IS PRECISELY WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ARGUING ABOUT WITH
THE ISRAELIS FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS. IN MY JUDGMENT,
THEY WILL NOT ACCEPT THAT THIS CAN BE PUT ASIDE TO BE
AGREED SUBSEQUENTLY. FOR THE GOI AT THIS TIME, IT IS THE
HEART OF THE MATTER.

-- I WILL MAKE THE POINT THAT PUBLIC STATEMENTS
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ON IMPENDING "MASSACRES" OF THE CHRISTIAN POPULATION
IN BEIRUT ARE NOT HELPFUL ESPECIALLY NOW THAT WE HAVE
A CEASEFIRE AND SOME PROGRESS ON THE GROUND. ALSO WILL
HIT HIM WITH UNIFIL RENEWAL AND CAMP DAVID MEETING.

-- I DO NOT UNDERSTAND LAST TICK. ISRAELIS IN
AGREEING TO LANGUAGE IN SECRETARY'S LETTER TO BOUTROS
DID NOT SAY THAT THE LAF BATTALION COULD GO TO TIBNIN
"BY ROUTE OF ITS CHOOSING." AS MENTIONED ABOVE, THAT IS WHAT
WE HAVE BEEN
ARGUING ABOUT. THE GOI AGREED THAT ONE COMPANY OF
LEBANESE FORCES COULD TRAVEL TO TIBNIN BY HELICOPTER.
A "ROUTE OF ITS CHOOSING" MEANS THROUGH MARJ UYUN TO THE
ISRAELIS.

-- I WILL TRY WITH WEIZMAN IDEA OF PUBLIC REAFFIRMA-
TION OF ISRAELI SUPPORT FOR ALL ASPECTS OF RESOLUTION
425, AND MAKE CLEAR DANGERS TO GOI IF SECURITY COUNCIL
DEBATE OCCURS.

-- I AM NOT SURE WHAT COMMITMENT ISRAEL CAN GIVE AT
THIS POINT WITH RESPECT TO MOVEMENT OF LEBANESE FORCES

THAT THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY GIVEN. THEY HAVE AGREED TO
DEAL FORWARDED IN SECRETARY'S LETTER TO BOUTROS AND
HAVE SAID THAT THEY WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ENSURE
THAT THE LAF GETS TO TIBNIN SAFELY. LEWIS

SECRET

NNN

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